

THE - POSTOFFICE

Enjoys the biggest trade in town; but as we claim to have always been next to the postoffice, (next door) it was fitting that, the latter having vacated its old quarters, we should take possession. So that's what we did, and this

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Is printed so that everybody may know it. It is important that you should know where to find us, for it wouldn't do to have people dropping dead in the street, not knowing where to find us, when we have a whole store full of medicines, with which we gladly save all the lives we can. So, henceforth,

IF ANYTHING'S THE MATTER WITH YOU, GO TO THE POSTOFFICE.

The old postoffice, of course, not the new. There in the future, as in the past, you may feel sure your prescriptions will always be carefully compounded, and at reasonable prices.

See our splendid new line of Fine Perfumes.

WM. M. MELVILLE, THE DRUGGIST.

OLD POSTOFFICE CORNER.

THE TIMES-DEMOCRAT.

THE TIMES-DEMOCRAT PUBLG CO.

COUNTING ROOM 221 NORTH MAIN ST.

TELEPHONE CALL NO. 84.

TALES OF THE TOWN.

Twenty-one prisoners are confined in the county jail.

The infant child of Simon Spellacy died this morning.

Robert Dewing and his company passed through Lima last evening on their way to Sidney.

Chief of Police J. N. Haller is confined to his home on West Wayne street with a severe cold.

Ed Ryan settled his trouble with the Kiefer Bros., at Bluffton, by returning the clothes and paying all charges.

The pupils of St. Rose school will give an entertainment in the opera house on next Tuesday evening, March 17th.

The first application for a saloon under the new law at the rate of \$350 tax per year was made to-day by Mitchel & Maubart, at the Cambridge Hotel.

The funeral of Mrs. Caddie Schnell, formerly Caddie Everett, of this city, will take place from St. Mark's Lutheran church at Wapakoneta, Friday afternoon at 2:30.

Lima Lodge No. 205 F. & A. M., will go to Bluffton to-morrow evening on the 7:30 train, to confer the third degree on some candidates. They will return on the evening train, after a supper to be given them by Bluffton Lodge.

The funeral services of the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ryan, of 125 west Market street, that died yesterday morning, after a week's illness, were held from the residence at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon and the remains were interred in Woodlawn cemetery.

ABOUT PEOPLE.

Who They Are, Where They Have Been and Are Going.

Julian Dorst, the Bluffton miller, is in the city.

John Riddle, of Delaware, was in Lima last evening.

Albert Gathman has returned to his home at St. Marys.

Mel Eaton, of Bluffton, is in the city to-day, on business.

Will Foltz left for North Baltimore yesterday, to visit relatives.

Miss Mary Dietz is home from a visit with her brother, in Grafton.

James E. Grosjean and wife and daughter this morning went to Cincinnati.

Mrs. Frances Fenton Helt, of 302 west North street, is visiting friends in Columbus.

Wm. Brown, of south Metcalf street, left yesterday for Denver, Col., for his health.

Miss Agnes Rosenthal, the south Main street milliner, is the guest of Mrs. Hugh Dooley, in Sidney.

Dr. E. D. Kahle and wife left this morning for Columbus to attend the Governor's reception this evening.

Mr. E. B. Barbanc, of Mt. Vernon, is the guest of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Larzelere, of the Faurot House.

Messrs. Ed and Will DuGray returned yesterday from Detroit, where they were called on account of their mother.

W. E. Snyder, of Hackett & Watkins' music store, is home from a Columbus hospital, where he took treatment for his eyes.

Dr. LeFevere, of Sidney, special examiner of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company, was in the city yesterday, on business.

SCHOOLS.

And Law Governing Them.

An Interpretation Put on the Ohio Statutes, by a Lima Attorney.

Who Differs With These Attorneys Who Composed the Joint Committee at Yesterday's Conference.

Editor Times-Democrat:

As there is just now considerable agitation in the city over the question of how the school board of the city of Lima should be constituted, or what constitutes a legal school board, a few statements from the history of the school legislation of the State may enable the people to better understand the matter.

First—A general school law passed March 14, 1853 (Sec. 32) provided that each city or village (not governed by the laws for the support and regulation of the schools of the town of Akron, passed Feb. 8, 1847) should be a separate school district, and provided for the election of a Board of Education of three members.

This and the Akron law were the beginning of the "Union School System" of the State, as under it, such Boards of Education were authorized to establish graded schools. And under this act of March 14, 1853, or under the act of Feb. 14, 1848, extending the provisions of the Akron law, the school district of Lima was regulated until the passage of the general school law of May 1, 1873. This law repealed all former laws, reorganized the schools and classified the districts of the State as follows:

"City districts of the first class, city districts of the second class, village districts, special districts and township districts." Each city of 10,000 inhabitants or more constituted a city district of the first class; each city of less than 10,000 inhabitants a city district of the second class, and each incorporated village a village district. Section 17 of said act provided that the Board of Education of each city district of the second class and each village district should consist of six members—unless previously organized under a general or local act providing for only three members—with power in the board itself to decide that the board consist of as many members as the city has wards. As Lima was then not a city of 10,000 inhabitants, it was either a city district of the second class or a village district, and was, therefore, entitled under this section to elect a Board of Education consisting of six members, or became so entitled by the provisions of section 21 of said act, and to elect said board from the electors of the district without regard to the wards of the city.

The passing of the Lima Electric Railway into the hands of a receiver was not received with much surprise, for such an act had been expected for some time. Most people, however, were surprised to learn of the heavy indebtedness of the road. The management, for some time, has been operating the road with great difficulty, and has been opposed in many ways. He has been unable to call to his assistance and to the relief of the company, either the stockholders or the directors. In order to keep the road running during the past three years, Superintendent Townsend has expended from his own money over \$10,000 in buying up its indebtedness. He claims to have frequently importuned the stockholders for an assessment, but they took unkindly to his plans. Mr. Townsend says that the directors repeatedly promised to render assistance, but none was offered. He also asked leave of the directors to place the road into a receiver's hands, but to this plan they also objected. He says he had been waiting since December 4th for some action and that matters came to a crisis Tuesday and something had to be done. The bondholders were threatening suit. A telegram was received from the Metropolitan Trust Company, to the effect that if something was not done at once the mortgage of \$100,000 would be foreclosed.

He says he was forced to do what he did in order to save himself and stockholders from loss. Within the last few days offers have been made to the management by responsible parties, but they were rejected, as the stockholders would be losers by the transaction. Mr. Townsend claims to have a plan which can only be worked out by the protection of the court. By this plan he says no stockholder will be subjected to any loss.

The road will be operated as usual, but under the direction of Receiver J. N. Hutchinson and Manager Townsend. Mr. Hutchinson filed his bond of \$500 before the county clerk this morning, and will assume charge at once. M. W. Cushingham, Amos Young and Reuben Harpster were the signers of the bond.

Lima school district had not been organized under such law, but had retained its former organization under a board of six members, elected from the body of the district. Hence, by virtue of the statute and the census of 1890, the city of Lima was in 1891, and still is, a city district of the first class, whose Board of Education can only consist of two members elected from each ward by the electors, and of the electors of each separate ward.

But if any doubt should arise as to the application of the amended act of 1887 to a city, that did not have a population of 10,000 as shown by the last Federal census, until after the census of 1890, we have only to consider the act of the last legislature, in which the said section 389 was amended and re-enacted March 14, 1894—O. L. vol. 91, page 69—In which it is provided that the Board of Education of a city district of the first class shall consist of two members from each ward, elected by the separate wards; and further provides that at the annual election for city officers held first after a city has been constituted a city district, with a board to consist of two members from each ward, there shall be elected in each ward, of such city by the electors of such ward, two persons to serve as members of the Board of Education of such district, one for one year and the other for two years, and at each annual election thereafter, one member from each ward to serve two years.

Lima is now and has been since the census of 1890, a city district of the first class—because she is a city having a population of ten thousand, and less than one hundred and fifty thousand, and can only elect a legal

school board as provided in Sec. 389 as amended March 14th, 1894—that is, two members in each ward, by the electors of each ward—one for the year and one for two years.

The present board, composed of six members, elected from the body of the district at large, is not a legally constituted board, and is without any legal qualifications to act for the city district in any capacity whatever.

It may be noticed that while the city constituted a school district of the second class the Board might legally be constituted as it is, and such Board had the power at any time to change into a Board consisting of one member from each ward, and if such change had been made the Board would have remained composed of one member from each ward, even after the city became a city of ten thousand inhabitants, until such Board would, by a vote of a majority of its members, have decided to change to two members from each ward.

But having neglected to make the change at that time, it cannot be done now, and there is now no way to elect a legal Board of Education but as above stated, and all the notice required for such an election is for the Mayor to state in his proclamation for the election of the municipal officers, that two members of the school board will be elected by each ward—one for one year and one for two years.

The old term, "The Union School District of Lima," has long since become obsolete and can have no legal existence.

PARKER.

THE RECEIVER

Gives Bond in the Sum of \$5,000.

The Lima Electric Railway will be Operated as Before.—Stockholders will Lose No Money.

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The 2000 shares of capital of stock of the company are owned as follows: Three shares by S. S. Wheeler, Lima; 31 shares by D. J. Cable, Lima; 31 shares by Lima National Bank stockholders, Lima; 6 shares by estate of S. W. Moore, deceased, Lima; 160 shares by W. W. Hazard, Cleveland; 140 shares by W. H. Kemble, Syracuse, N. Y.; 100 shares by L. K. Collins, Cambridgeport, Conn.; 30 shares by Wm. Day, Cleveland; 420 shares by D. McClymonds, New York City; 1030 shares by A. E. Townsend, Lima.

A Suggestion.

If you would be glad to know of a safe source for investing money which is returning large profits to many business men and citizens of this and other States, send your name and address to E. G. Stiles, 130 west High street, Lima, O., who will send to you, free, the illustrated pamphlet entitled, "A prosperous Industry to which hard times never come."

Notice.

All parties indebted to Ed. Wise will call at bank of Goldsmith & Kalb and settle said claims.

Gus Kalb, Assignee.

The Knox Hat

Is recognized as the leader among Easter dressers.

Harvard Male Quartette

To-morrow night. Seats on sale till 6 o'clock at Y. M. C. A. building.

BURGLARS

Go Through Wetherill's Grocery on Second Street.

They Are Interrupted in their Work when about to Enter a Dwelling—Police Find a Kit of Tools.

Between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock this morning four men burglarized Wetherill's grocery at the corner of Tanner avenue and Second street, on the South Side. Not content with the booty they there secured, they were about to enter the residence of B. F. Showalter on the opposite side of the street, when they were interrupted by Robert Mills, a furnace man at the steel works. In order to hasten in their escape they left their kit of burglar tools on the ground and were successful in getting away.

The furnace man, Mills, was called about 1:30 o'clock this morning to go to the steel works and attend to his fire. He lives on Second street, and had to cross Tanner avenue to reach the works. As he neared the avenue he heard a shrill whistle, and, looking up, discovered a man on the sidewalk in front of Wetherill's grocery. At the same moment three other men, all dressed in dark clothes, stole quickly and quietly from the rear of the Showalter residence and together the four men hastened across the adjacent commons and disappeared in the darkness. Mills resumed his trip to the steel works and informed night watchman Smith of what he had seen, then the two hurriedly returned to the grocery. They found that the front door of the store room had been broken open, and they immediately

NOTIFIED THE POLICE.

Patrolmen Watts and Baker responded and made no investigation.

They found a heavy screwdriver at the open door and also found a plug of tobacco that had been dropped by one of the men in the flight across the commons. After awaking Chas. Knarr, who lives above the grocery, and leaving him in charge of the store, the officers made a search through the railroad yards and other places for the robbers but found no trace of them. Mr. Knarr found a sledge hammer, a combination pipe and monkey wrench, and several chisels and punches belonging to either blacksmith or boiler shop and turned them over to policeman Lehman this morning. The tools and also a handkerchief had been left in a corner of the building, by the robbers.

The members of the Shawalter family did not bear the burglars when they were at the rear door of the house last night, but Mrs. Shawalter states that she heard some one trying to gain an entrance to the house night before last.

The only goods missed from the grocery are cigars and tobacco. The money drawer was broken open, but no money had been left in it last evening.

STREET TALK

Sheriff Fisher was considerably worried this morning, when he put on his coat and found in one of the pockets a gold watch. Where it came from or to whom it belongs is a complete mystery to the sheriff. Inquiry among the officials at the court house failed to discover the owner of the time piece.

The sheriff states that he was at home all last evening, and would be pleased to receive some information concerning the mysterious find. The sheriff requests the boys to say nothing about it, but upon asking you can see the watch.

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